

YELLOW FLAG IRIS

Iris pseudacorus



Yellow Flag Iris is a rapidly spreading invasive species that threatens native wetland vegetation. It blocks water flow, damages bird nesting sites and invades important fish habitat. The plant spreads by long rhizomes and by floating masses of seeds. It is easy to spot with its sword-like leaves that have sharply pointed tips and bright yellow flowers that appear in late spring and early summer. At maturity it can reach 1.5 m (5ft) in height. It contains poisonous plant resins that can cause a variety of human skin irritations as well as illness in grazing animals.

HOW TO REMOVE:

- Wear proper clothing. Sturdy gloves, long sleeves and long pants are recommended.
- Pull by hand for small patches of young plants, easier in wet soil. Use a shovel or garden fork to dig out mature plants, along with a pick ax to get the long taproots.
- Be prepared for a long haul as it may take several years. Be vigilant about cleaning up plant debris because even tiny pieces of rhizomes can generate new plants. Don't burn the plants because yellow flag iris re-sprouts after burning.
- Place in heavy trash bags for transportation to a proper green waste disposal facility. **DO NOT COMPOST** fresh cut green plants or roots. Disposal facilities: Salish Soils, Pender Harbour Transfer Station, Gibson's Residential Green Waste Drop off Site.
- Alternative plants: Butter & Sugar Iris, Cattails, Marsh Marigold, Western Blue Iris.
- Additional info: <http://bcinvasives.ca/invasive-species/identify/invasive-plants/yellow-flag-iris>



www.penderharbourwildlife.com

